

AMMAN, July 5 (R). — His Majesty King Hussein leaves for Saudi Arabia tomorrow for talks with King Khaled...

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية غير حزبية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Israel arrests Arab guerrillas

TEL AVIV, July 5 (R). — Israeli military forces have arrested seven members of an Arab guerrilla band in the occupied Gaza Strip...

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Javits: Palestinian homeland inappropriate

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 5 (R). — United States Senator Jacob Javits said here today that he thought a homeland for the Palestinians was "inappropriate" and clashed with the consensus...

ich had formed part of the original mandate over Palestine. "I consider the idea of a Palestinian homeland to be inappropriate to the situation of the Palestinians..."

No erosion of public U.S. support

Senator Javits said: "Mr. Begin's visit to Washington, though it comes very early in his premiership, is capable of being a decisive one..."

Consensus in Israel

Senator Javits said he had been impressed by the wide consensus in Israel on the need to retain parts of the occupied West Bank...

"I hope because I have been impacted with this view which I find well-nigh unanimous..."

He said this was important because the disposition of the West Bank appeared to be crucial to the morale of Israel...

He said returning part of the West Bank would not solve the Palestinian refugee problem...

Senator Javits arrives in Amman

AMMAN, (JNA). — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received Senator Jacob Javits, member of the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee at the U.S. Senate...

As fighting rages in south Lebanon

Southern deputies petition sending Arab or Lebanese troops to the region

SIDON, Lebanon, July 5 (R). — Fighting between rightist forces and Palestinian and their leftist allies continued on several fronts in the volatile south today amidst calls for the despatch of regular Lebanese or Arab troops to the region...

In addition to the normal intermittent artillery exchanges between the civil war adversaries deep in south Lebanon, travellers reported that Alma-Al Shaab, close to the Israeli border, came under shelling today...

A villager was killed and five other people were wounded, and the road to Naqoura was cut.

Travellers had earlier reported heavy fighting overnight in the north-eastern sector of the southern front, but there were no reports of any ground advances.

Scores of houses were also burnt in Yarin village, taken by rightist forces and later recovered by the Palestinian-leftist alliance over the weekend, the travellers said.

Reliable sources said Palest-

Begin, Sadat okay October Geneva date

TEL AVIV, July 5 (R). — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egypt's President Anwar Sadat exchanged cautious compliments through the news media today and appeared to agree on the timing for a resumption of the Geneva Middle East peace conference.

The date -- Oct. 10 -- was proposed by Mr. Begin at a press conference yesterday, although Israel and the Arab countries are still at odds over whether or how the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should be represented.

The semi-official Egyptian newspaper, Al-Ahram, quoted President Sadat today as saying in an interview in Libreville, Gabon:

"It is an encouraging sign that Begin announced he will go to Geneva in October. If it happens, we hope the Geneva conference could reconvene in or before October."

Mr. Begin later welcomed Mr. Sadat's statement. He told Radio Israel: "We should welcome any Arab agreement on any Israeli proposal. A few days ago, he was uttering ultimate demands and threats, and that is not good. I can only express my pleasure that he has agreed to my proposal for the Geneva talks."

In Washington, U.S. officials reacted cautiously to the statements by Mr. Begin and President Sadat.

"We welcome positive indications of the desire to get the negotiating process started," a State Department spokesman said. He noted, however, that the need for steps towards resuming the conference had already been agreed upon by all parties.

He added that any discussion of details such as the specific date would have to await further talks, including Mr. Begin's planned meeting with President Carter here in two weeks.

Libya calls for Arab foreign ministers meet

CAIRO, July 5 (R). — The Libyan Jamabiriyah (formerly Libya) today requested an Arab League foreign ministers' conference on July 16 to fix a date for a pan-Arab summit.

Arab League Secretary General Mahmoud Rald told reporters the Libyan request had been relayed to Arab countries for their decision.

The Libyan call for a summit was made late last month to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East.

Egypt and Morocco categorically rejected the idea while other Arab countries made vague statements welcoming the idea but said a summit should be preceded by adequate preparations.

In addition to buying or exchanging some commercial commodities with rightist-controlled border villages, Political adviser Mr. Arafat, Mr. Hani Al Hassan, today conferred with Mr. Alfredo Bruniera, the Papal nuncio, on the situation in the south.

"I believe that the fighting forces are in need of people with ideals to lead them out of the impasse in which they find themselves," he told reporters afterwards.

In turn, Phalangist leader Pierre Gemayel raised the deteriorating situation in the south with Mr. Richard Parker, the U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon.

In a press statement, Mr. Gemayel said: "We are now afraid we may lose our (southern) borders because of commando pressure." He again blamed the commandos for fighting in the south.

The U.S. was recently reported to be discussing the possibility of helping in the re-organisation of the Lebanese army which disintegrated during the civil war.



FAREWELL -- President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of Pakistan (left) says farewell to Maulana Mufti Mahmood chief of the opposition Pakistan National Alliance at the conclusion of their talks to end the current political deadlock in Rawalpindi Friday, prior to the military takeover on Wednesday. (AP wirephoto)

OAU summit ends, takes important decisions on Rhodesia, W. Sahara

LIBREVILLE, July 5 (AFP). — The decisions to hold a special summit on the Western Sahara issue in Lusaka early in October and to give exclusive support to the Rhodesian nationalist Patriotic Front highlighted the last session of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit here today.

Spokesman Peter Onu confirmed OAU agreement on the Lusaka summit.

Meanwhile, Moroccan sources at the summit said that Morocco, which along with Mauritania partitioned the former Spanish Sahara early last year, had endorsed the principle of a Lusaka summit.

But Rabat had objected to holding the summit in Tripoli as provided by the Libyan delegation because of Tripoli's partisan stand on the issue, the sources said.

Conferece sources said that a Polisario delegation had arrived here last night with Algerian passports but its members were denied access to the conference site by Gabonese security officials.

For the first time, the OAU reached agreement on the thorny issue of exclusive recognition of the hardline Rhodesian Patriotic Front, jointly led by Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe.

The OAU summit today endorsed a resolution introduced by Zambia on behalf of all front-line states bordering Rhodesia.

The mission would also ask oil-producing countries to grant special financial aid to Mozambique, which has been hard hit by Rhodesian raids.

The OAU also instructed its chairman President Omar Bongo of Gabon, to consult with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in an attempt to resolve the Franco-Comorian sovereignty dispute over the island of Mayotta.

The summit also set up two arbitration committees: The first, made up of Senegal, Algeria, Cameroon, Nigeria, Gabon and Mozambique, was to mediate in the border dispute between Chad and Libya.

The second made up of nine countries: Zambia, Sierra Leone, Togo, Algeria, Nigeria, Senegal, Zaire, Cameroon and Gabon, will try to resolve the bitter disputes between Ethiopia and both Sudan and Somalia in the troubled Horn of Africa.

The OAU 15th summit will be held in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum next year, Gabonese President Omar Bongo said today.

Also on Rhodesia, the summit decided to send a six-member mission (made up of Sierra Leone, Zambia, two northern African oil-producing countries and two sub-Saharan countries) to persuade them to enforce an oil embargo on Rhodesia.

The mission would also ask oil-producing countries to grant special financial aid to Mozambique, which has been hard hit by Rhodesian raids.

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Moslem kidnappers try to lure Cairo police

CAIRO, July 5 (R). — Moslem extremists tried to lure police into a booby-trapped flat by telling them the body of a kidnapped ex-minister was there, police sources said today.

An anonymous caller claiming to represent the extremists, who grabbed the former minister on Sunday, telephoned foreign news agencies last night giving an address in the Cairo suburb of Zeltoun where the body could be found.

There was no body but the police said they found a booby trap.

The police said a package of explosives was wired up so as to go off if anybody switched on the light in the flat's toilet.

But police searchers combed the place using their own flashlights and nobody was hurt.

The ultra-conservative "Al Takfir wal Hijra" society for repentance and flight from sin -- claims to have abducted

the former Minister of Religious Endowments, Dr. Mohammed Hussein Zahabi.

The anonymous caller was back on the telephone again today, adding to confusion by repeating in a call to Reuters that Dr. Zahabi was killed.

Al Hamdi hopes to equip his army with French Mirage jets, AMX tanks

PARIS, July 5 (R). — Lt.-Col. Ibrahim Al Hamdi, President of the Yemen Arab Republic and commander-in-chief of the north Yemeni armed forces, today watched a display of France's latest Mirage jets and AMX tanks with which he hopes to equip his army.

President Hamdi, here in the first official visit by a Yemeni head of state to the Western World, saw a flight demonstration of Mirage F-1 and Mirage-V fighter-bombers at Villacoublay air base, near Paris.

Later he drove to nearby Satory camp where he saw light and medium AMX tanks as well as armoured cars and half-tracks.

Saudi Arabia is paying for the military development of the Yemen Arab Republic's air, sea and land forces. In a recent deal with the United States, Saudi Arabia undertook to spend about \$150 million in equipping the North Yemeni forces. A similar sum has been earmarked for tanks and other military equipment from France for the YAR's armed forces, officials said.

President Hamdi, who had a first round of talks with President Valery Giscard d'Estaing immediately after his arrival here yesterday on safeguarding security and stability in the troubled Red Sea area, was accompanied by French Defence Minister Yvon Bourges and senior staff officers on his visit to Villacoublay and Satory.

But in placing orders for military equipment in France, President Hamdi also expects the French to grant his country credit facilities of up to

All Pakistani leaders detained Army deposes Bhutto, imposes martial law

ISLAMABAD, July 5 (R). — The Pakistan army today deposed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and put the country under martial law, but it promised to hold general elections in October.

The new military strong man, army chief of staff Gen. Zia-ul-Haque, gave the election pledge in a broadcast to the nation hours after the early morning coup.

Gen. Zia, 52, an ex-cavalry officer, said Pakistan's future lay in Democracy.

The bloodless coup followed four months of strife between the Bhutto government and opposition parties. In the widespread agitation at least 350 people were killed.

Mr. Bhutto's opponents alleged his Peoples Party rigged an election victory on March 7, and they demanded new polls.

The army acted before dawn today, apparently exasperated by deadlock in peace talks among the politicians. It detained most party leaders, including Mr. Bhutto, 49, and swiftly assumed control of the Moslem country of 70 million people.

Gen. Zia said in his broadcast that the army refrained from earlier intervention because it hoped a political solution could be found.

He said his sole purpose now was to hold free and impartial elections.

Gen. Zia said political activity was now suspended, and the constitution was not abrogated but some parts of it were suspended.

"I genuinely feel that the survival of this country lies in democracy and democracy alone," Gen. Zia said.

"I want to make it absolutely clear that neither do I have any political ambitions nor does the army want to be distracted from its profession of

soldiering," added the general, who was appointed army chief of staff in March 1976.

He said he gave a "solemn assurance" he would not deviate from a schedule aimed at transferring power to elected representatives soon after the new elections.

But "if any citizen disturbs law and order in the country, he will also be severely dealt with," Gen. Zia said.

He confirmed that all leaders of the opposition Pakistan alliance had been arrested except for Begum Nasim Wali Khan, wife of Khan Wali Khan, the leader of the banned National Awami Party who is now on trial for conspiracy against the state.

Eyewitness reports said the country generally was calm after the coup. Gen. Zia's troops patrolled key centres. Soldiers with a heavy machinegun guarded Mr. Bhutto's home in Rawalpindi, near here.

One report said he was detained in the hill resort of Murree, outside Islamabad.

Gen. Zia said on the radio that the coup had begun to roll at midnight and had gone smoothly and peacefully.

"The action was carried out according to my orders," said the dapper, polo-playing general who has commanded smouldered units in the field.

Then he dismissed what he said were suggestions the coup had been "secretly concerted" with Mr. Bhutto. "Such an air of distrust has been carried during the past few months that even well-meaning people also get bogged down in doubts and apprehensions," he said.

Demirel gets Erbakan's party support

ANKARA, July 5 (R). — Former Premier Suleyman Demirel, trying to form a new government, was offered support today from the party which holds the balance of power in Turkey's bitterly divided parliament.

Mr. Necmettin Erbakan, head of the Islamic-oriented National Salvation Party (NSP), said he would exact stiff conditions in foreign and domestic policy for his support.

The NSP has 24 seats in the 450 member National Assembly. It insisted in the past on big spending for industrial development -- which caused financial problems for Mr. Demirel's last administration -- and is opposed to any concessions over Cyprus.

Mr. Erbakan's offer to join or support a coalition led by Mr. Demirel suggested that the

current government crisis could lead to the re-emergence of the shaky rightwing coalition which governed until general elections a month ago.

Mr. Demirel was assigned yesterday to form a government following the parliamentary defeat of a short-lived social democratic administration. He welcomed Mr. Erbakan's statement today as positive and helpful.

But caretaker Premier Bulent Ecevit, who lost a vote of confidence on Sunday, warned today that no government could rule in defiance of his party, the biggest in parliament.

Mr. Erbakan, who quarrelled bitterly with Mr. Demirel when they collaborated in the last government, told reporters today that he would be willing to support a Demirel government from outside or join in if

his conditions were met.

These conditions, he said, were a halt to domestic anarchy, continuation of the NSP's drive to develop heavy industry, measures to deal with high cost of living and guarantees of a foreign policy which the NSP approves.

Mr. Erbakan's insistence on unrestrained spending for industrial development -- despite Turkey's soaring balance-of-payments deficit and a critical foreign exchange shortage -- was at the heart of a major problem for the last government and seems likely to hinder efforts to resolve the nation's economic problems.

His reference to foreign policy was a reminder of his hard-line stance on Cyprus.

Mr. Erbakan's opposition to any concessions on the Cyprus question is seen by many foreign and Turkish diplomatic experts as a barrier to any movement towards a negotiated settlement on the island.

Turkey's military men are already chafing under limitations applied by the United States on arms credits, widely seen as a form of pressure to encourage progress towards a Cyprus settlement.

Mr. Ecevit, talking to reporters after a joint meeting of his party's parliamentary groups, said other parties should realise that while a government could be formed without the RFP, "it cannot govern despite us."

Mr. Ecevit claimed an overall majority in the two houses of parliament -- the National Assembly and the Senate -- despite his lack of a majority in the assembly, which handles most legislative affairs.

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Will Djibouti be the catalyst on the Horn of Africa?

The last French colony in Africa, Djibouti, has achieved independence. What of its future? Economically it is weak, with unemployment running at 40 per cent. Its port is its most valuable asset and that is not getting the traffic it used to. Externally, its neighbours have designs on the territory, reports a correspondent who visited the area recently.

By Andaw Lycett

DJIBOUTI (Gemini) — The last French colony in Africa, the Red Sea enclave of Djibouti, becomes independent in unenviable circumstances.

Djibouti's independence is similar in some ways to the Spanish Sahara's last year. As in the Sahara, there are neighbouring countries waiting in the wings to gobble up the new country if it puts a foot wrong.

In the Sahara, Morocco, Mauritania and Algeria all hoped to make their mark when the Spanish left. In Djibouti, the Somalis and the Ethiopians have their various claims on the 8,800 square mile area of port and desert, known officially until independence as the French Territory of the Afars and Issas (TFAD).

But at least in the Spanish Sahara the vultures had some tangible economic reason for wanting to move in when the Spanish left. There were valuable phosphate mines to exploit. In Djibouti there are no such economic assets to claim.

The country is a fiscal mess, dependent on France for 80 per cent of its revenues.

Theoretically the country's most valuable asset is its port. There are 2,300 metres of docks, 32,000 square metres of covered storage space and capacity to stock 180,000 tons of petroleum.

The economic potential of the port is not being realised. It should have picked up business quickly after the opening of the Suez Canal in 1975, but it did not. Shipping companies consider Djibouti docks too old. The port dues are more expensive than in Jeddah and Aden, so Djibouti is not getting the transit traffic it used to.

This would not matter particularly if the future of trade with Ethiopia was assured. With the intensification of the war in Eritrea, Ethiopia has been forced to rely increasingly on the Addis Ababa to Djibouti railway built by the French in 1917 to carry on its trade with the outside world.

Since the double tracking of this railway was completed in March this year, something like 85 per cent of Ethiopia's foreign trade has traversed it.

Recently members of the Western Somali Liberation Front have blown up bridges on the 484-mile railway. This action convinces some observers of the certainty of war between Somalia and Ethiopia over the oil-rich Ogaden region currently part of Ethiopia but claimed as part of its territory by Somalia.

These observers see Djibouti as the catalyst which will set ablaze the long-standing tension between Somalia and Ethiopia. They see the ethnic division in Djibouti between the

Ethiopian-orientated Afars and the Somali Issas as a microcosm of wider conflicts in the Horn of Africa. They say the French have long fostered ill-feeling between the Afars and Issas, first by supporting the numerically inferior Afars in power, lately by switching their allegiance to the Issas.

The immediate economic consequence of independence is less wealth for Djibouti. Already the sabotage on the Addis to Djibouti railway has led to a curtailment of traffic through Djibouti port. So the Western Somalis' actions have hurt their Issa brothers in Djibouti as much as their Ethiopian enemies.

They have added to unemployment in Djibouti — already running at 40 per cent. Apart from the port there is little other work to occupy the people of Djibouti. There are seasonal opportunities in agriculture and also in the leather and saw industries.

Most of the professional work has been carried out by the French. Servicing the 10,000 French colonialists has provided jobs in Djibouti. 7500 of these have been soldiers, the rest businessmen who flourished under Djibouti's no-tax free port system, with their earnings in Djibouti francs tied to and convertible into the American dollar.

The cutting back of the French presence in Djibouti will lead to a drop in the informal sector of storekeepers, drivers, house servants and others who have benefited under colonial rule. Some 2,500 French foreign legionaries will remain in the newly independent state.

The French government is in the process of negotiating a substantial aid programme which will see Djibouti through the difficult years ahead. It has also taken the opportunity to get Saudi Arabia in on the act. During President Giscard d'Estaing's visit to King Khalid in Riyadh in February, it was informally agreed that as far as the French were concerned Djibouti would be allowed to come within the Saudi sphere of influence, and the Saudis would further use their economic power to restrain the

Somalis from moving into Djibouti once the French left.

French and Saudi Arabian aid may help buoy up the sagging economy of what will become the 49th member of the Organisation of African Unity and the 21st Arab League nation.

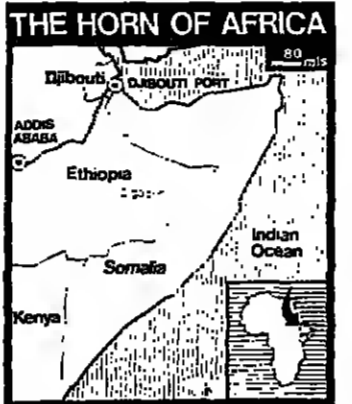
But private French business interests which have made Djibouti their Red Sea haunt are already finding new resting places. They have been frightened off both by the potentially dangerous political situation and also by the conflicting statements on economic policy made by the new Djibouti government, led by Hassan Ghouled.

On the one hand Mr. Ghouled has talked of capitalising on Djibouti's role as a free port, making it into the Hong Kong of the Middle East. On the other hand he has made noises about nationalisation of private interests. One of his prime targets here has been the Addis-Djibouti railway, which is half controlled by the French and half by Ethiopia.

Such are the economic prospects and inequalities in the new state of Djibouti then, that a'ouite aort from the political conflagration some people feel likely to arise from antagonism between the Afars and the Issas, there is likely to be some rapid reorientation in economic policy once the new state finds its feet.

Whether this will lead Djibouti towards the Marxist camp is difficult to forecast. But doubtless the Russians will be keeping their eyes on internal developments in the country.

In this context it is interesting that the departing French decided at the last moment to include the Soviet Union in their discussions on Djibouti.



An open letter to Senator Jacob Javits You gotta be kidding

Welcome back to the Middle East. It is always a pleasure for us to receive such distinguished men as yourself, both because you are an important leader of the American Jewish community and because you are a senior member of the American Congress. As such, you are an important actor in the continuing drama that is the Arab-Israeli conflict. More than most people, you are capable of helping to bring about a peace agreement between the Arabs and the Israelis, and we sincerely hope that your current tour of the Middle East will nudge you one step further in this task.

But we want you to know that we are shocked, dismayed and profoundly saddened by the remarks you made in occupied Jerusalem yesterday. Specifically, your statement that you consider "the idea of a Palestinian homeland to be inapposite to the situation of the Palestinians" is a statement that is, well, that is inapposite to the search for peace in the Middle East. We reject your credentials as a man who has the moral authority to suggest what is and what is not apposite to the situation of the Palestinians. You are a Senator from New York State who is here on a fact-finding mission. It is inappropriate for you to suggest what is and what is not required to solve the Palestinian dilemma when the actions of you and your colleagues in the Senate and the House of Representatives have probably done more than anything else over the past 30 years to perpetuate the Arab-Israeli conflict, to prolong the state of war between Palestinians and Zionists, to keep the Middle East in an escalating spiral of warfare and tension and, the greatest tragedy, to compound the insecurity of the Jews of Israel by institutionalising the state of Palestinian homelessness that only guarantees continued conflict. For you to come to the Middle East this week and tell us that a Palestinian homeland is inappropriate to the situation of the Palestinian is only to pile insult on top of injury, and, we suggest, a little bit of fresh nonsense on top of much past American congressional criminality.

If, as a Jew, you feel that it is proper to set up a Jewish homeland in a land that is also a Palestinian Arab homeland, then we think you are running counter to the principles of your religion and the ethics of your people. Our wish is that the Palestinian and the Jewish people can live together in a land that has become their common homeland. Is that your wish too? Do your people, the Jews, have more of a right to live in Palestine than do the Palestinian Arabs? We think not. We think the Palestinians and the Israelis must live together in Palestine, and we know that they can do so in time. We had hoped that men such as yourself would help bring this about. We hope you still will. If you need to come back to the Middle East again and again to do this, we will always welcome you, even if you will come out with statements that are inapposite to the common aspirations for peace and justice of the Israelis, the Palestinians, the Jews, the Arabs, the Christians and the Moslems of our world.

These observers see Djibouti as the catalyst which will set ablaze the long-standing tension between Somalia and Ethiopia. They see the ethnic division in Djibouti between the

Third Circle Phantasmic By Omar Jawad The best of Arabism...

One of the novel features of the Middle East scene these days is the upsurge of "floating exhibitions". The idea behind this is that a ship packed with, say, household goods can tour the entire Arab World and reach a very large audience at a reasonable cost. But I've always wondered why nothing similar has happened in reverse, whereby the Arabs send a floating exhibition to other parts of the world. So I thought about it for a while, and I have come up with a suggestion, one which, not incidentally, kills two birds with one stone, so to speak.

My suggestion is that we physically separate southern Lebanon from the rest of the country, float it out to sea, and send it around the world as an example of the best qualities of Arab civilisation. This would rid us of the very complex problem of the fighting in south Lebanon, and it would provide the Arabs with some public relations benefits. You may think that the events of south Lebanon are nothing to be proud of, but I'm not so sure that's true. For starters, we can show off south Lebanon as the embodiment of the following Arab characteristics and virtues:

- 1) Perseverance: By any logical standards of judgement, the fighting in the south of Lebanon should have ended by the Arab League peace-makers and peace-keepers made and kept the peace throughout Lebanon many months ago. But the fighting in the south shows that the Arabs have much more perseverance than we are given credit for.
- 2) Flexibility: All during the two years of the Lebanese war, alliances have been made and changed so frequently that military and political analysts are left scratching their heads in bewilderment. In fact, this has to be seen as a display of the Arab's unique ability to adapt to changing circumstances. It's something we should be proud of.
- 3) Non-discrimination in religious affairs: The fighting in southern Lebanon has exploded the Zionist myth that the Arabs hate the Jews. The cooperation between Israeli and rightist Lebanese forces in the south must be shown to the world for what it really is -- a demonstration that Arabs do not discriminate because of race, colour or religion. If help is required, the Arab mind is open enough to seek it from wherever it may come.
- 4) Adaptability: The manner in which the fighters in Lebanon have introduced the complex technology of warfare into the conflict must be something of which all Arabs should

be proud. Few other people could have adapted to the use of modern weapons as quickly as has happened in Lebanon. If the Arabs can master the technology of warfare so efficiently, desalination plants and fertiliser complexes will be like child's play.

5) Concern for one's brother: The manner in which all the Arabs have at one point or another expressed their desire to help end the fighting in Lebanon demonstrates a humanitarian concern for the welfare of one's brother that is hard to match anywhere else in the world. Hardly a day goes by without some prominent Arab expressing the sincere hope that the fighting in Lebanon will come to an end and that the good people of Lebanon will be spared the hardships of that terrible war. This profound concern for one's fellow human beings is believed to be most acute in the Arab World because this region of the world is the cradle of civilisation and the Holy Land.

6) The dynamism of Arab politics: Those people who accuse the Arab states of not having free and open political systems should look at Lebanon to see how dynamic the Arab World's political dialogue really is. Where, except perhaps in Djibouti, are so many different voices heard and so many forces engaged in the process of politics? And where else in the world can we find such an example of people backing up their words with deeds, guns, money and troops?

These are only some of the qualities that come to mind when I look at southern Lebanon. I feel that, as usual, the Arabs are sitting back while the rest of the world sees the Lebanese war as an example of the worst traits of the Arab. I do not accept this. As an Arab, I am proud of what is happening in Lebanon, and I think the full story of that war must be told to the world.

The whole of southern Lebanon can be easily sliced away from the rest of the country and floated out to sea as a floating exhibition. With the long Phoenician sea-faring tradition, actually sailing southern Lebanon from place to place would be rather easy. To maintain buoyancy, the bloated dead bodies from the on-going fighting can be continually slipped under the floating land mass as it sails along, thus keeping it afloat. This could be shown off to the West as the latest example of how the Arab mind is capable of keeping up with the technology of the rest of the world. Nobody else has thought of the idea of recycling bodies.

The spark that once made the Arabs great is not yet dead.

Comecon looks around for needed fuel imports

By Patrick Worsnip

WARSAW, July 5 (R). — Although the phrase is being studiously avoided, there is little doubt that communist leaders now realise they are facing an energy crisis.

Only a few weeks after President Carter was urging Americans to save energy, prime ministers of the nine-nation Comecon economic grouping -- the Soviet Union, the East European states, Cuba and Mongolia -- were exchanging the same message.

These countries may not have many "gas-guzzling" cars, but they do have mounting problems of fuel extraction, and expanding industries which often waste energy.

The communist countries were aware of the problem even before the world oil price explosion of 1973-4 made energy a major international issue.

The Comecon council session in Warsaw last month was dominated by discussion of the subject.

Comecon's problem is that, apart from some oil and gas in Romania, and sizeable deposits of coal in Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, the smaller countries depend largely on the Soviet Union for energy sources.

But although the Soviet Union is rich in most major raw materials, its resources, especially oil, are not being developed as fast as the demands of its allies are growing.

Comecon is counting on joint development ventures, covering the period up to 1990. Announced at last year's summit, these cover not only fuel and raw materials, but also engineering, food production, consumer goods and transport.

A whole energy strategy emerged from the session which Comecon Secretary Nikolai Faldyev summarised as "mobilising to the maximum degree potential energy resources, from low-heat lignites to atomic power."

In addition to joint projects

already under way, they are including schemes for bringing Soviet gas and electricity by pipe and power-line to Eastern Europe. But Western analysts say the non-Soviet countries are having difficulty meeting their half-share of the \$13 billion investment Comecon reportedly earmarked for these projects.

At the same time, there was a succession of hard luck stories. East Germany complained that about a third of its brown coal mines were about to become exhausted and it would have to start new ones, at great expense.

Czechoslovakia said the quality of its coal would decline from 1980, and many remaining deposits were awkwardly located under towns, roads and rivers.

Romania stated that its limited reserves of oil and gas did not allow it to step up production.

Several premiers acknowledged that, despite all efforts, their countries would still need to increase fuel imports, including imports from non-Comecon countries.

This particularly applies to oil, in which, Polish State Planning Chief Tadeusz Wrzasczyk said in recent newspaper interview, Comecon is 73 per cent self-sufficient.

A growing trend for East European countries to seek oil from outside the Soviet Union -- now the world's biggest producer -- has been apparent for several years.

Last year, according to figures published recently by the Soviet monthly Foreign Trade, Soviet oil exports to communist countries dropped slightly and, if refined products are included, were overtaken by those to non-communist countries.

For the Soviet Union, exporting to the West means hard currency to pay for imported industrial technology. Selling within Comecon means payment in goods at rates which, though sharply increased of late, are still well below world levels.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Jordanian dailies Tuesday were concerned with the Arab's readiness for the Geneva Conference and with the visit of His Majesty King Hussein to the Zarqa district on Monday.

Al-Dustour said that, whether Israel's Prime Minister Begin was really serious or just manoeuvring when he said that Israel was ready to attend the Geneva Conference and suggested early October for the reconvening of the conference, Arab readiness for such a conference remains an urgent problem. This is because:

1. The Arabs who call the different parties to meet must agree beforehand on all the details of representation in the conference, whether the Arabs would be represented by different countries or one group would represent all the Arabs;
2. President Carter's promise to reconvene the conference before the end of the year, the EEC's recent summit statement on the Middle East and the known Soviet stand in the Middle East crisis all reveal a serious attitude among the major powers for reconvening the conference whether Begin himself was serious or not; and
3. There is not much time left for Geneva to reconvene whether it be in October or November.

landing Geneva, should be held in order that they prepare beforehand. Otherwise all hopes of success for the Arabs will be lost.

Al-Sha'b commented on the visit of His Majesty King Hussein to the Zarqa district on Monday. "We follow with confidence and hope," was one of the banners welcoming the King to Zarqa. The paper elaborated on this welcome by saying that the confidence of the people in their King has grown with the increase in Jordan's accomplishments over the past twenty-five years. The paper noted that this confidence is mutual. The King is also confident in his people and in their abilities to adventure into what others would call impossibilities.

The people are confident in the wisdom and valour of their King and his ability to understand their ambitions and hopes. The paper said that when Jordanians recall their accomplishments their hope increases for further accomplishment.

"We follow with hope and confidence" should be the title for Jordan's accomplishments, according to the paper. These accomplishments provide the example of a small country which can accomplish a lot.

The paper concluded that the Zarqa district celebrations express the love and happiness of the people for their King. Their happiness was manifested as a result of all the achievements and as a result of their hope for further ones.

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Committee meets today prepare non-aligned news media conference

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh is attending a meeting of the preparatory committee organising a non-aligned news media conference at the Jordan International Hotel Wednesday.

Yugoslav town of Sarajevo in November. The preparatory committee's agenda includes a review of the present state of radio and television stations in non-aligned countries and cooperation between members, particularly as regards the exchange of programmes, news and technical training expertise.

Science meet opens here November

AMMAN (JNA). — The government has decided to convene a conference on scientific and technological policy in Jordan on November 7.

NATION TO MARK 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF KING TALAL

AMMAN (JNA). — The nation Thursday marks the anniversary of the death of King Talal Ibn Abdullah, who died in Istanbul five years ago.



Commander of the Lebanese Army, Brig. Victor Khouri (centre), smiles broadly during his meeting Tuesday with Lt-Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

Talhouni returns from Euro-Arab meet

AMMAN (JNA). — Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouni returned here Tuesday afternoon after attending the Euro-Arab parliamentary dialogue, which ended in Luxembourg the same day.

Mr. Talhouni said that in his political statement, the conference stressed the need for ending the Israeli occupation of Arab lands, halting the creation of Israeli settlements in the occupied areas and putting an end to continued Israeli violations of human rights.

Solar-powered desalination plant switches on in sun-soaked Aqaba

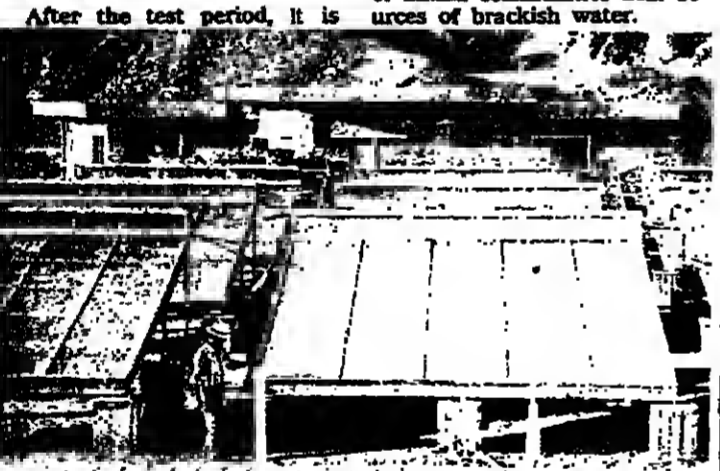


General view of the 15 "modules" that make up the solar-powered desalination plant at Aqaba.

Text and photos by Rami G. Khouri special to the Jordan Times. Jordan's bid to become a technological powerhouse in the Arab World has moved forward another step this month with the entry into service of solar-powered desalination at Aqaba.

on temperatures, water salinity, flow rates, pressure, solar radiation, humidity and winds. The data is fed into a computer on the site, which will be manned by four full-time RSS engineers.

anticipated that the RSS will undertake local production of the technology for this kind of desalination plant, which is designed primarily for small, isolated sea-side communities, or inland communities near sources of brackish water.



Engineers put the finishing touches last week to one of the 5x5 metre modules, or solar panels, at the Aqaba desalination plant.

LEBANESE ARMY CHIEF MEETS SHARIF ZEID

AMMAN (JNA). — The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Lt-Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, Tuesday received the commander of the Lebanese army, Brig. Victor Khouri.

The meeting was attended by the chief of staff and his assistant for operations and planning. The Lebanese commander earlier visited the general headquarters of the Royal Air Force.

He watched a takeoff at one of the bases. He also visited the Fifth Royal Armoured Division. Brig. Khouri and the commanders of the Royal Air Force and the Fifth Royal Armoured Division exchanged tokens of gifts during these visits.

Swiss delegation briefed on tourism

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghalib Barakat Tuesday briefed a visiting Swiss economic delegation on tourism in Jordan and the ministry's plans to develop this sector.

He also discussed cooperation between Switzerland and Jordan in various tourist fields. The minister focused on possible provision of expertise and aid, especially as the two countries are now working out a comprehensive plan for the development of the Ma'in tourist area.



Ghalib Barakat: Pushing for tourist aid.

The meeting was attended by the Swiss ambassador in Amman, M. Gustave Dubois. Discussions will resume at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Wednesday morning.

The Jordanian side to the discussions will be led by Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddine Dajani, who will review Jordanian projects and investment opportunities.

The Swiss group, which consists of 16 representatives from the Swiss public and private sectors, will meet officials in various ministries and government departments to get first-hand knowledge of

projects, which they may finance. Mr. Barakat Tuesday reviewed the importance of Jordan as a tourist centre with the visiting director of the International Tourism League. Mr. Barakat stated that Jordan is important in this respect since it is situated in the middle of the Arab World and has a good transport network.

Personnel management seminar due

AMMAN (JNA). — A seminar on personnel management will be held here by the Institute of Public Administration on July 16.

The seminar will familiarise personnel officers from government departments and public institutions with modern concepts in personnel management.

It will also increase the flow of opinions between departments and promote the airing of problems.

A number of lectures will be delivered on labour planning, methods of selecting and evaluating employees and procedures concerning medical insurance and social security.

OFFICIAL DENIES NEWS REPORT THAT CEMENT IMPORTS WILL BE BANNED

AMMAN (JNA). — A Ministry of Industry and Commerce official Tuesday denied a report published in the local press that it intends to ban the import of cement.

The official stated that the report is devoid of truth and does not serve the public interest.

Imports of cement are still allowed, he confirmed. It is exempt of all duties and any person wishing to import may obtain a permit for that purpose from the ministry, he stressed.

STATISTICS ... STATISTICS

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan's exports to Turkey increased 24 per cent in January compared with the same month in 1976.

Jordanian imports from Turkey rose 21 per cent over the same period.

Figures from the Department of Statistics said the value of exports to Turkey in January amounted to JD 225,000 against JD 181,000 a year before.

Imports over the same period totalled JD 416,000 against JD 344,000.

The main export was phosphate rock; main imports were livestock, cereals, agricultural seeds, pistachio and hazel nuts.

from Kuwait dropped from JD 39,000 to JD 29,000.

Exports to Lebanon in January stood at JD 102,000 in comparison with JD 57,000. Imports from Lebanon fell from JD 463,000 to JD 410,000.

Olive and Fruit Trees in Irbid

The area of land planted with olive and fruit trees in Irbid Governorate amounts to 179,300 dunums which now yield more than 114,150 tons of various crops, according to recent Ministry of Agriculture statistics.

The area planted with olive trees in the governorate amounts to nearly 107,700 dunums; grapes 32,250; citrus trees 15,950; bananas 3,600; apples and pears 4,900; and almonds and walnuts 7,060.

Imports Drop

Exports to Kuwait in January reached JD 201,000 in comparison with JD 196,000 in the same month in 1976. Imports

NEW TOURIST GUIDE GOES ON SALE HERE

AMMAN (J.T.). — A new edition of a pocket-size tourist guide to Jordan has just been published and is now on sale throughout the country.

The guide, by Mr. Samir Atallah, entitled simply "Jordan", contains basic information that a visitor would find useful, including emergency telephone numbers, leisure activity facilities and listings of banks, cinemas, travel agents, hotels, restaurants, hospitals, nightclubs, airlines, churches and diplomatic missions.

It also has capsule summaries of the tourist highlights of Jordan, with several maps of Amman, Jarash, Petra and Jordan as a whole.

The guide, which includes colour photos, sells for JD 1.500.

NATIONAL NOTES

* AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable of congratulations to Algerian President Houari Boumediene on the occasion of his country's Independence Day Tuesday. The King also cabled his congratulations to President Carlos Andreas Perez of Venezuela on his country's Independence Day.

* AMMAN. — The Jordanian Red Crescent Society opens its charity bazaar at King Hussein Club Saturday. Proceeds will finance charity projects undertaken by the society.

* AMMAN. — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday evening patronises the graduation ceremony for students of state and private teachers training institutes. It will take place at Al Hussein Youth City. The number of male and female graduates this year totals 3,400.

* AMMAN. — Minister of Finance Dr. Mohammad Dabbas received the American ambassador, Mr. Thomas Pickering, in his office Tuesday.

* AMMAN. — Amman Municipality has started to implement a project to open, macadamise and asphalt a number of streets in the capital.

* AMMAN. — Minister of Aqwaq and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif leaves here Wednesday for Canada to attend the General Conference of Islamic Organisations and Associations, which will be held in Toronto on July 14. The four-day conference will discuss ways of presenting Islam on the American continent.

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Saudi Arabia, UAE up oil price 5% Iraq forgoes intended oil price hike

BAGHDAD, July 5 (AFP). — Iraq decided yesterday not to raise its oil price by 5 per cent as previously intended, bringing its price in line with the majority of OPEC members.

The Iraqi decision was a further step towards ending the two-tier pricing system which was introduced last Jan. 1 after Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates disagreed with the majority of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) at the Doha conference last December.

Libya, considered with Iraq to be among the most militant OPEC countries, has still not made it clear whether it will maintain the planned July price increase.

The other nine members of the OPEC majority announced last week that they were to keep prices unchanged at the January level.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates raised their oil prices 5 per cent Sunday, bringing them into line with those of the remaining 11 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and effectively ending the six-month price war.

In a brief communique following afternoon talks in the

Saudi capital between the oil ministers of the two countries, the official Saudi press agency said the move, retroactive to July 1, had been prompted by "a feeling of responsibility towards the world economy."

At the Doha conference, 11 OPEC countries agreed on a 10 per cent price increase from Jan. 1, to be followed by another rise of five per cent on July 1. Saudi Arabia and the UAE increased their prices by a moderate five per cent in January.

The latest moves by OPEC

China, EEC consider economic agreement

PEKING, July 5 (R). — A European Common Market delegation opened exploratory talks with Chinese officials here today aimed at paving the way for a trade agreement.

The six-member team, headed by Mr. Roland De Kergolay, Deputy Director General in the European Commission's Department of External Affairs will remain in Peking for seven days.

Diplomatic sources said the

members will bring their prices into line at 10 per cent above last year's levels.

Iraqi Oil Minister Taib Al Karim said in Paris last month that Iraq was prepared to forgo the planned July rise provided Saudi Arabia and the UAE increased their prices first.

He said this was in the interest of OPEC solidarity.

He also said oil prices should remain a powerful negotiating tool for efforts by Third World countries to secure a new international economic order.

Parliament debates U.K.'s stand on Arab boycott

LONDON, July 5 (R). — Parliament was told early today the government could not guarantee Britain's £2,500 million a year of exports to the Arab World if it changed its attitude towards the Arab boycott of Israel.

Mr. Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, was speaking in a debate on government policy towards the boycott.

He described it as "abhorrent and objectionable," but said that if Britain wished to trade with other countries it

had to conform to their practices.

He was replying to a speech by an opposition Conservative backbencher, Mr. Malcolm Rifkind, who complained about the Foreign Office practice of certifying signatures on export documents declaring that goods did not originate in Israel.

Mr. Rifkind described the practice as "dishonourable and unfortunate," while government backbencher Greville Janner accused the government of "active connivance in a disgraceful activity."

Algeria to supply Holland, W. Germany with liquid gas

ALGIERS, July 5 (AFP). — Algeria is to supply 3,000 million cubic metres of natural gas annually to West Germany and the Netherlands over a 20-year period under a contract signed here last Thursday, official sources said today.

The Algerian national oil company, Sonatrach, signed the deal with the West German Ruhrgas and Salzgitter-Ferngas companies and the Dutch Gasunie Group, owned jointly by Shell and Esso Oil Companies and the Dutch government.

The sources said the agreement would take effect during the early 1980s after being ratified by the end of this year by authorities of the three countries.

In Essen, the Ruhrgas group said the first supplies were expected in 1984.

Official Algerian sources said 4,000 million cubic metres a year would be shipped to the Netherlands and a similar quantity to West Germany aboard four liquefied natural gas carriers, of which two would be made available by the Algerian National Shipping Company.

Ruhrgas said in Essen that a new terminal would be built at Wilhelmshaven to receive the Algerian gas. The Dutch share would be landed in Rotterdam.

Officials here declined to give any details on the price at which the gas would be delivered. Nor did they say how Algeria intended to finance in-

stallations needed for the gas shipments.

In the Hague, a spokesman of the Gasunie Group said the price was likely to be linked to that of crude oil.

Algerian sources said, however, that the new deal with West Germany and the Netherlands might indicate an increase in Algeria's estimated natural gas production capability, through the discovery of additional resources or a revision of its reserves. They said Sonatrach was estimated to have reached the ceiling of its exports potential with contracts concluded last year.

Another possibility, these sources said, was that a given amount of gas committed for exports to the United States had become available because U.S. authorities had failed to approve the contracts concerned by a given deadline.

Industrial dispute forces closure of Maltese banks

VALLETTA, July 5 (R). — Some banks in Malta were yesterday forced to close down temporarily after their government-controlled management suspended more than 1,000 senior employees in an industrial dispute.

In addition, some 700 nurses in government hospitals yesterday began a three-day strike over a similar issue, their unwillingness to sign a declaration that they would comply with terms of employment.

The banking dispute grew out of the recent suspension of some telecommunications workers who were suspended from duty for refusing to comply with directives which they said were introduced without prior consultation with their union.

The Malta Union of Bank Employees then instructed its members to refuse to carry out any work connected with the

Tele Malta Corporation, which employs the telecommunications workers. The bank management, in turn, then ordered bank employees to affirm they would comply with their terms of employment or face suspension.

But the bank employees, mainly in managerial and supervisory grades, refused and were then suspended.

The cabinet is believed to have discussed the situation at a four-hour meeting today.

The banks concerned are the Bank of Malta and two commercial banks in which the government has a controlling interest.

The nurses strike took place after their original plan to stage more limited industrial reaction resulted in them receiving a similar circular to one sent the bank employees saying that they would also agree to abide by their conditions of employment.

The nurses had planned their industrial action in support of medical doctors locked out for more than one month after protesting against a government decision to make newly-graduated doctors start their careers by working for two years in government hospitals.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Following are official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency.

Saudi riyal	92.5	83.0
Lebanese pound	107.5	108.0
Yemeni pound	80.9	81.2
Iraqi dinar	940	945
Kuwaiti dinar	1137	1141
Egyptian pound	457	477
Libyan dinar	740	750
UAE dirham	83.5	84.5
U.K. sterling	669	678
U.S. dollar	330	332
German mark	140.3	140.7
French franc	67	67.1
Swiss franc	132.3	132.7
Italian lira (for every 100)	34.7	37.8

Argentina, Saudi Arabia discuss trade relations

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, July 5 (R). — A visiting Argentine trade delegation yesterday conferred with Saudi Arabia's Foreign Ministry officials on bilateral relations.

The delegation, led by Foreign Minister Under Secretary for Economic and Trade Relations Signor Raul Cura arrived here on a visit lasting a few days. Its talks were held with Saudi Foreign Minister Under Secretary for Foreign Trade Relations, Sheikh Abdullah Ali Reza.

According to the Saudi Press Agency the two reviewed economic cooperation between the

two countries and possible technical assistance to Saudi Arabia.

The agency said Sheikh Abdullah briefed his guests on Saudi Arabia's current five-year development plan and heard them offer possible technical aid in the economic, commercial, agricultural and industrial fields.

Signor Cura will be meeting with Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal today, the agency said.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of inter-bank trading on the London Foreign Exchange Market today. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling =	1.7202 / 04	U.S. dollars	
One dollar =	2.3130 / 40	West German marks	
	2.4585 / 600	Dutch guilders	
	2.4320 / 30	Swiss francs	
	35.92 / 94	Belgian francs	
	4.8755 / 70	French francs	
	883.70 / 80	Italian lire	
	264.85 / 265.00	Japanese yen	
	4.3895 / 905	Swedish crowns	
	5.3075 / 85	Norwegian crowns	
	6.0195 / 210	Danish crowns	

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices advanced slightly Tuesday on the New York Stock Exchange, where the industrial average gained nearly one point after last week's broad declines.

Trading was very light after the long weekend of independence Day. Only 16.8 million shares changed hands. Analysts were reluctant to read much into the uptrend in stock prices in view of the thin volume of trading.

Advances outnumbered declines at the close by a 732 to 645 margin. Most groups of shares ended the day on a mixed tone. Among aerospace shares General Dynamics gained 1/2 at 59 3/4. Rubber shares declined with Firestone off 1/2 at 19 1/4.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 913.53, a gain of 0.94 points; Transp at 238.02, a gain of 0.19; utilities at 115.28, a gain of 0.23. 16,850,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,340,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed steady to a shade firmer among leading industrials Tuesday while long dated government stocks were little changed on the day after earlier 1/8 gains and shorts edged occasionally higher.

Leading industrials drifted back slightly after a generally firm start in lack of follow through but dealers said the underdog remained firm, and at 15:00 the F.T. index was up 0.8 at 450.4.

Oils were off the top by the close but net rises still ranged to 4p, while banks had gains of 2p to 6p among the "big four". Mining shares continued firm aided by the firmness of the gold bullion price while Australias eased on home market trends. Canadians were occasionally a shade easier.

Some dealers said the weakness of GEC's share price after the figures could have been a factor pushing other leaders a penny or so off the top.

Net gains of a penny or so were noted in leaders such as ICI, Fisons, Laxo, GKN and Marks, while Plessey, Dunlop, Tubes, Metal Box and Unilever closed unchanged after earlier rises.

Price of gold closed in London Tuesday at \$141.25/oz.

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- 2 VB-359 D bell box
- 3 VB-365 D extension unit
- 30 VB-371 DY button telephone w/cable
- 30 VB-377 P connector w/plug
- 30 VB-377 PY connector w/plug and jack
- 30 VB-3021 A confidential talk unit.

Anyone interested should contact Mr. Issa Tubbeh, tel. 63163 or 61415. All offers before July 10, 1977. Office located near the Ministry of Health.

British gold reserves soar

LONDON, July 5 (R). — British reserves of gold and foreign currency soared to a record \$11.57 billion in June, the Treasury said yesterday.

Sterling performed strongly during June and the Bank of England is believed to have taken advantage of this to buy foreign funds to swell the reserves.

These were also enlarged by a \$750 million loan from a group of British American banks to the state's North Sea Oil undertaking, the British National Oil Corporation.

The reserves increased by

\$1.67 billion, indicating an underlying inflow of funds amounting to more than \$800 million.

This especially pleased Treasury officials as it came during a month when British interest rates dropped to come more into line with rates being offered elsewhere.

High interest rates and an improving pound sterling have coaxed a big flow of funds into Britain this year, building up to previous record reserves in April of \$10.13 billion.

The reserves have almost

trebled since last December.

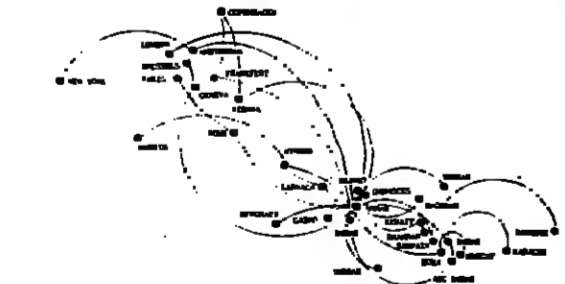
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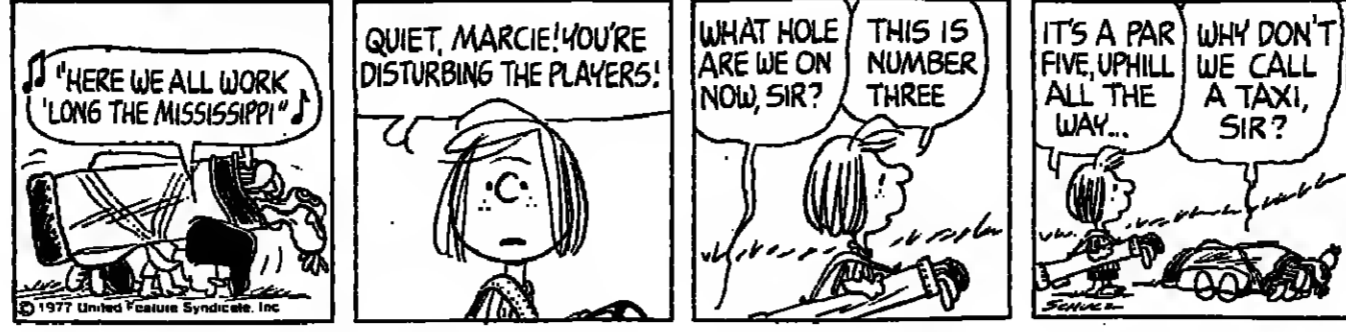
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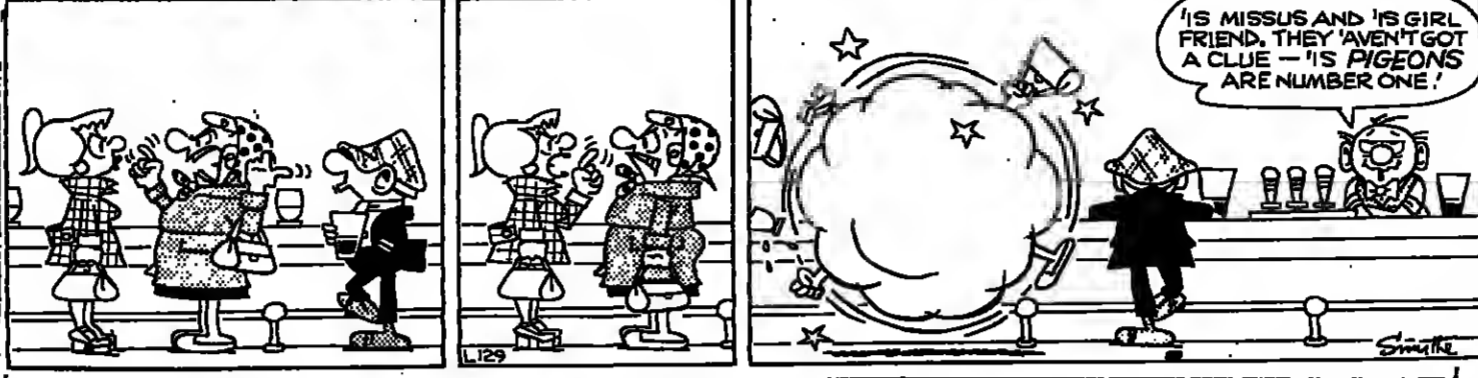
Your Daily HOROSCOPE from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you can get rid of the limitations that are annoying and build a better course of action by following your own intuitive perceptions. Be alert to opportunities. ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make plans to gain your aims in the minimum amount of time. Use your intuition for best results. Be careful of your money. TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Pile time to be with congenials for recreations you enjoy. Do something thoughtful for loved one. GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can easily make progress now in career work. Strive to attain the prestige you deserve. Relax at home tonight. MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Get an early start carrying out those new ideas you have. New contacts can be helpful to you in the future. LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Find the right formula for handling your business affairs and act in a positive way. Going along with what your mate prefers is wise. VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Find out what associates expect of you and then cooperate to the best of your ability. Don't be caught napping on the job. LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You can easily reach an accord with co-workers now and then all goes smoothly. Take time to improve your wardrobe. SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make plans now for amusement activities later that can bring much pleasure. Show true devotion to mate and get fine response. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Carry through with ideas you have in mind and gain the cooperation of associates. Be more understanding. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Obtain the data you need to expand where career matters are concerned. The ideas of associates could be helpful to you now. AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be more practical now and improve your position in life. You can make good connections by attending a social affair. PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) An excellent time to improve your position with friends and associates. Be sure to attend an important social event.

PEANUTS



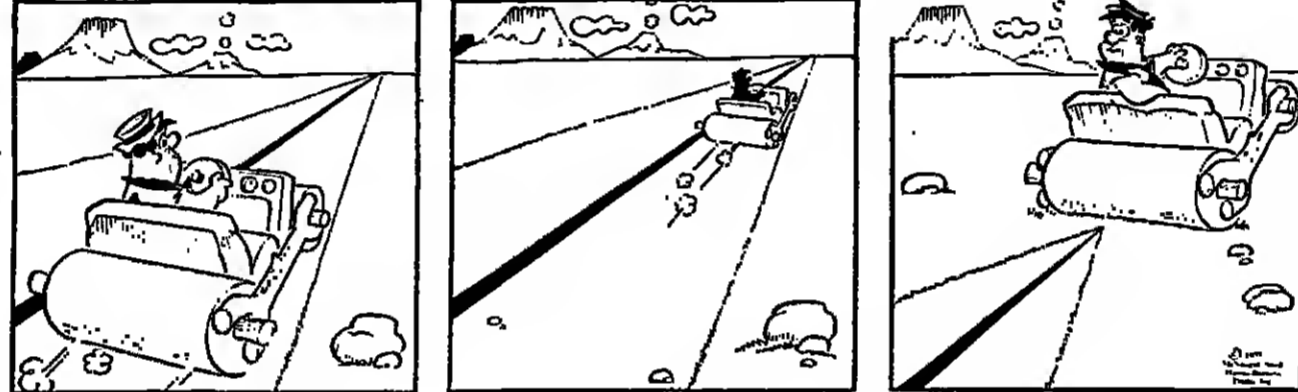
ANEY GAPP



MUTT & JEFF



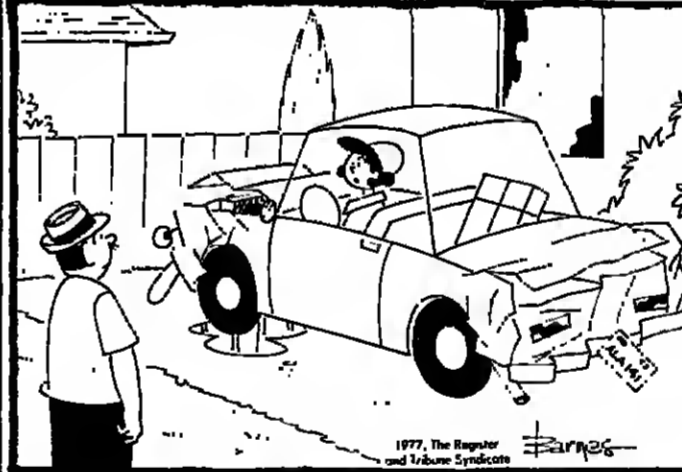
THE FLINTSTONES



LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



PROVERB

When riches increase, they increase that need to be fed.

GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

Q.1-As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠KJ873 ♠K6 ♣AQ7542 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take? A.-Pass. You have already told partner that you have ten or eleven cards in the black suits. For all your distributional values, in terms of high cards you are pretty near a minimum opening bid, and your void in partner's suit surely represents a duplication of values. To make a slam try risks getting overboard.

Q.2-As South, both vulnerable and you have 60 on scene, you hold: ♠652 ♣6 ♢Q10743 ♣J854 Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?

A.-Pass. We are as keen as anyone to score up a rubber, and in this situation we would strain to keep the bidding open. But there is a limit to all rashness. The danger of responding with one no trump is that the opponents might compete and partner, expecting to find some useful values in your hand, will bid too much in his eagerness to complete the rubber. The resulting penalty could be catastrophic.

Q.3-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠72 ♣KJ9852 ♢K6 ♣854 Partner opens the bidding with two no trump. What do you respond?

A.-Whenever you have a reasonable six-card suit and some outside values opposite a two no trump opening bid, you should consider the possibility of slam. You could bid an immediate five hearts. However, that suggests a better suit. We prefer an initial response of three hearts and if opener raises in four hearts, a rebid of five hearts. That makes it clear to partner that we have no first-round control in the side suits.

Q.4-As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠A1082 ♣85 ♢KQ73 ♣984 Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?

A.-Two spades. At spades, your hand is worth almost 10 points, which is the maximum for a simple raise. Unless partner can move over two spades, in which case you would be happy to jump to game, it is doubtful that you will miss anything.

Q.5-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠KQ874 ♢AQJ752 ♣Q6 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take? A.-Your hand has improved considerably. Slam looks likely and even a grand slam need not be ruled out. However, there is no need for any precipitous action. Just carry on describing your hand. A bid of three spades tells partner that you have six diamonds and five spades, and leaves all the room you need for further exploration.

Q.6-As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠85 ♣92 ♢AK763 ♣A954 The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take? A.-The spade suit holds the key to the hand. With control of the minor suits and a doubleton heart, there could be a slam if you don't have two quick losers in the master suit. A bid of five hearts, over game, informs partner that you have two spade losers and leaves it up to him to bid slam if he has a spade control.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Jumble puzzle grid with words LUCK, SNUKK, CRENAK, INCLOU and a cartoon of a person hitting their foot.

Print answer here: 'O O O O' (Answers tomorrow) Yesterday's Jumbles: DUMPY SHYLY PICKET GAMBLE Answer: What the champ proved to be—A CHUMP

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions for yesterday's puzzle.

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GRAFFITI BEHIND A SUCCESSFUL MAN IS A TAX LAWYER A BODYGUARD AND A PR MAN THE ROCKET'S RED GLARE WOULD BE HARD TO SEE IN TODAY'S AIR

OUT AND ABOUT Captains Cabin The fashionable restaurant for you. Grilldays Bank-street. Tel. 2197, AQARA. Open for dinner. Air conditioned. Speciality: Italian cuisine. Live Music and dancing. CHINESE RESTAURANT First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Abilyah School or CBS. Tel. 28962. Open daily from noon to 8:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service-order by phone. QUICK MEAL Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luweibdeh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30648. Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid. THE DIPLOMAT First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 28582. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

Table with columns for JORDAN TELEVISION, RADIO JORDAN, VOICE OF AMERICA, ARRIVALS, AMMAN AIRPORT, and USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Kennedy airport bus hijack ends with 2 dead, 2 wounded

NEW YORK, July 5 (Agencies) — A young Panamanian-born seaman, who said he was upset at the racial situation in the United States, surrendered to police late last night after he killed two people, wounded two others and held a dozen hostages on a hijacked bus for more than 10 hours.

Police identified the man early today as Luis Robinson, 26, a U.S. navy seaman attached to the USS Detroit, a supply ship stationed off the Maine coast.

He was born in Panama, emigrated to New York in 1954, and now lives in Somerset, New Jersey, police said.

Police said the armed hijacker had wanted six million dollars and a plane to take him to Cuba. A plane was prepared for takeoff, but the hijacker never boarded it.

The gunman surrendered quietly just before midnight af-

ter police vehicles rammed the hijacked bus and called on him to give up.

As he was led away, the dozen or so hostages cried hysterically, having witnessed the shooting of three people and having seen the hijacker hurl a man from the speeding bus during a chase around Kennedy's runways, police said.

The hijack drama began at about 1400 when the man seized a bus with about a dozen passengers on board en route to Vermont and forced it to drive to the airport.

According to the police the gunman entered the bus as a passenger at the main terminal in Manhattan, about 40 kms. from Kennedy Airport.

Half an hour after the bus, owned by Vermont Transit, began its scheduled journey to Vermont the gunman jumped up and shot librarian John McGovern, 50, of Hartford, Connecticut, in the neck.

He told the passengers he had shot Mr. McGovern to sh-

ow he was serious and complained of ill-treatment in the United States. He ordered the driver to turn back to Kennedy Airport.

Shortly after the first shooting, Nessim Blassberg, 57, was fatally wounded when she tried to use karate on the hijacker.

Bus driver Norman Bozick, 41, was wounded as he tried to push the hijacker from the bus. Bozick died en route to the hospital.

The hijacker forced a 17-year-old passenger to take the wheel and head for Kennedy Airport, where the bus crashed through security barriers and drove out onto the runway.

The body of the dead woman was hurled from the bus as it raced around the runways chased by police cars.

The bus careered around the runways before it was cornered beside a hangar where the gunman held the passengers hostage aboard the vehicle.

The drama finally ended when the police rushed the bus and forced him to surrender after long tense hours of waiting.



OFFICIAL PRESENTATION -- North Yemen President Ibrahim Al Hamdi (third from left) presents an unidentified member of his delegation to French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing (second from left) and the first lady of France, Mrs. Anne Giscard d'Estaing, during an official ceremony at the Elysee Palace in Paris Tuesday. (AP wirephoto).

"Lion of Kashmir" scores sweeping victory over India's Janata Party

SRINAGAR, Kashmir, July 5 (R) — Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah's National Conference Party consolidated its sweeping election victory in the sensitive north Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir as more results were announced today.

Sheikh Abdullah, the "Lion of Kashmir", last night won one of the major political battles of his life by soundly beating India's ruling Janata Party in state elections here.

With only six results still to be declared today, the sheikh's National Conference had won 43 of the 76 seats in the new state assembly, giving it a clear working majority.

Sheikh Abdullah's victory was near-total in the Kashmir valley portion of the state where his party won 36 of the 38 seats so far declared.

But the major surprise was its performance in the Jammu region where it picked up seven of the 32 seats.

The Janata (People's) Party won only 13 seats and the national opposition Congress Party 10, independent candidates secured four seats.

There was a festive air in the Kashmir summer capital of Srinagar today as truck loads of the sheikh's supporters drove through city streets singing and shouting slogans.

A ban was placed on processions in Srinagar before the elections to head off the possibility of clashes between rival political groups.

But there were spontaneous demonstrations of joy at the national conference victory with young girls singing and dancing in the street.

All the trucks and groups of people headed towards Sheikh Abdullah's house in downtown Srinagar, where the 71-year-old Lion of Kashmir is recuperating after a severe heart attack last month.

Sheikh Abdullah sought to make Kashmir's autonomy and special status inside the Indian union a campaign issue.

In an interview with foreign correspondents at his bedside he said there was no question of his government not having good relations with the central Janata Party government.

He said the Kashmir government would review all laws passed by the central government over the last two decades to see if they conformed with Kashmir's special status.

Now the prime minister has appointed a brilliant economist as Vice Premier in charge of what amounts to a super economics ministry.

He is 52-year-old Enrique Fuentes Quintana, Director of Studies and Planning at Spain's Confederation of Savings Banks and one of 41 senators appointed by King Juan Carlos to the upper house of parliament.

In his new government, announced yesterday, Senor Suarez

Iraqi minister advises Arab states not to antagonise Soviet Union

KUWAIT, July 5 (R) — Iraqi Information Minister Tareq Aziz said in a newspaper interview published today that the Arabs could rely best on the Soviet Union to provide them with modern weapons needed to regain Israeli occupied Arab territories.

In the interview with Kuwait daily Al Rai Al Aam, Mr. Aziz said he was surprised at the attitude of some Arab countries which antagonised Moscow.

"The Soviet Union supported the Arabs in the wars (with Israel) of June 1967 and October 1973," Mr. Aziz said.

Mr. Aziz praised Iraq-Soviet relations which he said were based on understanding.

On Iraqi-Syrian disputes, Mr. Aziz told the paper they stemmed from differences over national Arab causes including

New Spanish cabinet takes oath of office

MADRID, July 5 (R) — The new Spanish government pledged loyalty to King Juan Carlos today before starting work on the country's economic problems which all parties agree require urgent solution.

The 19-member cabinet of Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez was sworn in as a new oath of office, purged of Francoist connotations, came into force for public servants.

Senor Suarez has been accused by businessmen of neglecting the economy during the country's transition from the Franco dictatorship to democracy, highlighted by the June 15 general elections.

But all political parties agree that the government must rescue an economy sinking under the pressure of high inflation and a heavy balance of payments deficit.

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In his new government, announced yesterday, Senor Suarez

abolished three separate ministries for the army, navy and air force and appointed the former First Deputy Premier and Army Chief of Staff, Lt-Gen. Gutierrez Mellado as head of the Defence Ministry.

Abolition of three military ministries was part of government efforts to separate generals from politics.

The government was shaken last April when the army condemned the lifting of a ban on the Communist Party and the navy minister resigned in protest.

An official statement said the ministry was formed "to modernise the armed forces and unify the chain of political command."

The 19-member cabinet is drawn entirely from the prime minister's centrist coalition that won last month's parliamentary elections.

BARCELONA POLICE ANNOUNCE ARRESTS

BARCELONA, Spain, July 5 (R) — Barcelona police said last night they had arrested four extreme leftist students who admitted responsibility for the death of a 76-year-old industrialist blown to pieces by a bomb strapped to his chest.

A police statement said the four, three men and a woman, were detained last Friday and an arsenal of various weapons and explosives recovered. Police also found detailed plans of police stations and notes on security measures taken by various political and financial figures.

The Industrialist, Senor Jose Maria Bulto Marques, chairman of one of Spain's largest chemical firms, was killed in his home last May 9 when he apparently tried to remove the time-bomb from his chest.

The gang had seized Senor Bulto half an hour before at the home of a relative and given him 25 days to pay a 500 million peseta (€4 million) ransom.

Police said the four people detained had formed an extremist guerrilla group a year ago to extort large sums of money and terrorise the population.

They said the group was of the extreme left but that their precise ideology and aims were not known.

City police chief Jose Maria Callejas Peinado told a press conference the four may have sought to set up in Barcelona, capital of the northeastern province of Catalonia the equivalent of the Basque separatist group ETA.

ETA is waging a guerrilla war in the northern Basque area to establish an independent Marxist state.

Carter, Brezhnev exchange messages

MOSCOW, July 5 (R) — Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev today received U.S. Ambassador Malcolm Toon and handed him a reply to a letter from President Carter, the official TASS news agency reported.

TASS gave no indication of the contents of Mr. Brezhnev's letter nor the original communication from Mr. Carter, and there was no immediate comment from the U.S. embassy on the meeting.

Mr. Toon was received by the Kremlin leader only 20 hours after Moscow Television refused to record a talk he had prepared for Soviet viewers marking American independence day, apparently because of a planned reference to President Carter's human rights campaign.

It was widely assumed that the letters were connected with recent efforts by the U.S. administration to arrange a summit between Mr. Carter and Mr. Brezhnev, who is now Soviet president, as well as Communist Party chairman.

Later the U.S. embassy said the meeting today lasted one

hour and 40 minutes. It was Mr. Toon's first with Mr. Brezhnev since he took up his post in Moscow last December.

A U.S. spokesman said the letter from President Carter was delivered to the Kremlin after the ambassador returned to the Soviet capital on June 11 from consultations in Washington.

But the spokesman could give no indication of its contents.

In its report of the meeting, TASS said Mr. Brezhnev reaffirmed the principled line of the Soviet Union in questions of relations with the United States.

The Soviet president emphasized "that these relations should be based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and non-interference in each other's internal affairs," TASS added.

"In this connection he noted a number of aspects in U.S. policy which do not accord with the aim of a constructive development of relations in the interests of the peoples of both countries and in the interests of a stronger peace," the agency said.

Pakistan just can't seem to get away from civil strife, military takeovers

ISLAMABAD, July 5 (R) — Pakistan was born 30 years ago amid ferocious communal strife between Hindus and Muslims.

The two wings of the Moslem state were carved out of the Indian sub-continent at the same time as predominantly Hindu India achieved independence.

Communal riots claimed more than a million lives when Pakistan gained independence as a separate British dominion in August 1947 with Mohammed Ali Jinnah, leader of the Moslem League, as governor general.

The two newly-independent countries were immediately embroiled in a bitter war over Kashmir, which continued until the United Nations imposed a ceasefire in 1949.

The country's first Prime Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, was assassinated in 1951 and his murder heralded a period of serious political instability and tension between West and East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).

Earlier, in 1948, the young state suffered a heavy blow with the death of Jinnah, who symbolised and inspired national unity.

In 1955 a new constitution established the Islamic republic of Pakistan with Gen. Iskander Mirza as president.

But President Mirza was to hold office for just two and a half years.

With political and economic problems mounting in both wings of the country, he abrogated the constitution in October 1958 and proclaimed martial law.

Within three weeks he resigned and handed over power to Gen Ayub Khan, supreme commander of the armed forces.

It was the beginning of 13 years of military dictatorship.

The following summer, President Ayub introduced "basic democracy", with an electoral college of 80,000 who elected representatives to national and provincial assemblies. His presidency was confirmed by ballot a year later.

In 1962 he strengthened his presidential powers in a new constitution and set up a single-chamber parliament divided equally between East and West Pakistan.

President Ayub was re-elected president in 1965, but that year his country fought a three-week war with India over Kashmir, and there were also clashes over disputed territory in the Rann of Kutch.

President Ayub's 11-year rule came to an end in March 1969 with the regional tensions that had bedevilled the country during its first 22 years forcing him out of office.

He resigned following months of political unrest and rioting in East and West Pakistan. Gen. Agha Mohammed Yahya Khan took over the presidency and imposed martial law.

In 1970 President Yahya announced that East Pakistani demands for representation on a popular basis would be met, with that region having 169 out of 313 seats in a new National Assembly.

General elections in December that year reflected the gulf between the two wings of the country.

The Awami League of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman won 160 of the East Pakistan seats while in the west of the country the People's Party of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto took 83 seats.

The leaders of the two wings failed to agree on a new constitution and President Yahya twice postponed the first session of the assembly in 1970.

West Pakistan was Punjabi-dominated with Urdu as its official language. The eastern wing was Bengali-speaking and the people there charged the government of taking their earnings from jute exports to foster development in the west while giving them little in return.

President Yahya vowed that East Pakistan would not secede, but his failure to suppress revolt in the east led to his downfall and the founding of Bangladesh.

Talks in March 1971 between President Yahya, Mr. Bhutto, and Sheikh Mujib failed to produce a practical formula for the transfer of power to a civilian government.

By now Sheikh Mujib was in virtual control of his home region and east Bengal nationalist guerrillas were harassing Pakistani troops there.

What President Yahya had feared -- the breakaway of East Pakistan with Indian intervention -- took place in December 1971. On Dec. 16 the Pakistan army in the east surrendered to Indian troops and the state of Bangladesh was born four months later.

Just three days after that humiliating defeat, President Yahya stepped down and Mr. Bhutto took over as president -- with martial law in force.

The eager enthusiasm which marked the early days of Pakistan had waned with rising unemployment, a battered economy, increasing lawlessness and political violence.

It had lost half of its population -- and much of its foreign earning power -- with the breakaway of East Pakistan.

Shortly after taking over, Mr. Bhutto expressed exasperation with his people and the despair they apparently felt.

"The world is laughing at us," he said in 1972. "While others have reached for the moon, we are still engaged in petty and ruinous squabbles."

But he succeeded in returning the country to civilian rule before stepping down as president in August 1973 to become Prime Minister.

He said the United States should show understanding towards the Arab cause and aspirations of the Arab nation.

The newspaper said the minister praised Iraq-Kuwaiti relations and expressed hope that at last week's visit to Baghdad by Kuwaiti Defence and Interior Minister Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Sabah -- to discuss the border problem -- would be useful for both countries.

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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

* RIO DE JANEIRO, July 4 (R) — The Haitian government today ordered the return home under escort of the first secretary of its embassy in Brasilia following allegations that he was involved in the murder of his ambassador Delorme Mehu. Brazilian police mounted a round-the-clock watch on the secretary, M. Louis Robert MacKenzie, after two men arrested for the murder yesterday told them they had been hired by the diplomat, who they said had promised them 50,000 cruzeiros (about \$3,500) and a car to kill Mr. Mehu. A Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman said tonight Haiti had informed Brazil that it was sending a delegation to Brazil to accompany M. MacKenzie back to Port-au-Prince. The Haitian investigation said the delegation would take note of Brazilian police investigations on the case. One of its members would remain behind to take charge of the embassy. Brazilian diplomatic sources said the fact that M. MacKenzie was to be escorted home implied he would face trial.

* TEHRAN, July 5 (R) — Iraqi Interior Minister Izzat Ibrahim had talks today with the Shah of Iran and handed him a message from Iraqi President Ahmad Hassan Al Bakr. After the talks the Shah and the Iraqi minister had lunch together, reflecting the degree of cordiality that has developed between the two countries since the March 1975 Algiers accord which ended years of bitterness and long-standing disputes. Mr. Ibrahim arrived here yesterday at the head of a 36-member delegation for wide-ranging talks with the Iranian authorities.

* LONDON, July 5 (R) — One of Ugandan President Idi Amin's former ministers today described a police training school at Naguru near Kampala where he said torture and execution with trial took place. Godfrey Lule, 42, Ugandan Justice Minister for four years, told the Daily Mirror newspaper one of the favourite instruments of torture was "the wheel". "It is a blood-spattered lorry wheel stripped of its tyres. The victim is ordered to stand in the centre then forced to pull it up round his waist. Because of the weight few can lift it above the knees. The victim is beaten and threatened until he does manage to raise it but the wheel is so heavy that he drops it and smashes his feet or tears off his heels," Mr. Lule said. Mr. Lule, who is seeking political asylum in Britain, said the policemen torturers then make him pick it up again. He said other instruments of torture included an electrical power unit with bare wires which were taped to the victims' genitals or nipples. Mr. Lule described seeing wooden mallets which his policeman guide told him were used for delivering blows to the head without cracking the skull, stiletto knives to terrorise victims into thinking their throats were about to be cut and iron hammers to smash knuckles, toes, teeth and knees. Across the area ran an iron girder where victims were suspended to be flogged, he said.

* KUWAIT, July 5 (R) — The Foreign and interior ministers of the Gulf states are expected to hold a meeting in Kuwait at the end of this month, the daily newspaper Al Siyassah reported today. It said the ministers would discuss coordination in the security, political and economic fields.



IN THE DOCK -- Lars Gule of Oslo, Norway, faces a military tribunal at the opening session of his trial Tuesday in Beirut. He is charged with carrying explosives and intent to commit sabotage. (AP wirephoto).

Trial opens in Beirut of Norwegian DFLP sympathiser

BEIRUT, July 5 (R) — A young Norwegian charged with trying to smuggle explosives out of Lebanon for subversive purposes testified today that he wanted to carry out a mission for a Palestinian commando organisation in Israel.

Lars Gule, 22, told a military court here that he would not have undertaken any bombing operation in Lebanon or any Arab country on behalf of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), which the charge said he had joined.

Gule, whose trial opened this morning was arrested at Beirut airport two months ago as he was about to board a plane for Frankfurt, West Germany.

Officials said customs men found 850 grammes of plastic explosives hidden in a book in his luggage and a number of detonators.

The accused testified today that he would have chosen a target in Israel for a bombing operation on June 5, the anniversary of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. His target would have been a house close to the President Hotel or near a police post in Jerusalem, or a pedestrian subway in Jerusalem or Tel Aviv.

But Gule said he had never undertaken any bombing operation.

Gule, whose trial was attended by the Norwegian consul, denied having had any link with the DFLP before coming to Lebanon.

He said he had left a Marxist organisation to which he had belonged in Norway.

The DFLP had not asked for any guarantees that he would carry out the bombing operation, he said.

Gule had told the DFLP he was not certain he would have

sufficient courage for the operation, according to his testimony.

He admitted receiving \$1,300 from the front as the price of an air ticket and to cover expenses. But he would not have taken any further sum from the front, he said.

He said he had insisted that there should be no casualties as a result of the bombing.

Gule said he had visited several southern Lebanese villages.

The public prosecutor insisted on a translation of Gule's notes, saying he wished to establish whether Gule wanted to carry out the operation in Israel or elsewhere.

The charges, read in court today and translated to the accused in English, said Gule arrived in Lebanon on Feb. 25 of this year to study the conditions of Palestinians here on behalf of a Norwegian Marxist group.


The charge said the accused had Marxist leanings, and had received the explosives from the DFLP after three weeks of training in their use in the coastal town of Damour, south of Beirut.

The charge alleged that he had then gone with members of the DFLP to Damascus to be briefed on targets he could bomb in Israel.

Sources close to the defence have said it would try to have the charges confined to carrying explosives, rather than including reference to any intention to carry out subversive activities.

The explosives allegation usually carries a six-month to three-year prison term.

Gule, wearing a dark green shirt and brown trousers, spoke in a composed tone to the court, presided over by Col. Nabil Qureitem.



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